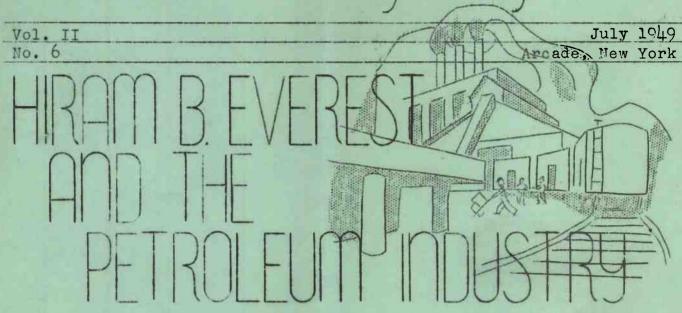
Historical V



A great petroleum industry owes its beginnings to the labor of mind and body of Hiram Eond Everest, a native of Pike, and a graduate of Middlebury Academy, During a career which Wyoming. began here, continued on homesteads in Wisconsin and Ohio, and reached its climax with the successful development of the vacuum process for the distillation of petroleum and the forming of the Vacuum Oil Company, Mr. Everest carved out for himself a highly respected place in American in-Today, the Socony-Vacuum dustry. Oil Company, which he helped to start, is a world-wide industry.

Residents of this County will still find his modest birthplace just north of the East Koy Ceme-tery, Town of Pike. The house in which he was born, April 11,1830, looks much as it did in his youth although aged a bit during the last century and a quarter. those days it was within Allegany County. Of English stock, he was the son of Joseph and Esther (Rob-His inson) Everest. paternal ancestors had migrated from England to York, Maine, in the middle of the 17th Century. Everest, his great-grandfather,

throughout the Revolution, from the effects of exposure and other hardships of the conflict. he died at his Vermont home two months after the close of the War. His widow and a large family of small children were hard pressed to make even a scant living from the rocky soil of Vermont. she determined to stake her fortunes in the Empire State. Accordingly, she and the children moved to Manlius, N. Y., cleared a farm. where they When her son Joseph was grown, the family came to Pike, where he bought a farm and built a saw mill.

Joseph married and In time, the birth of Hiram a year after he moved his family to a farm near Wyoming. There the boy, as he grew older, helped his father and found time to do odd jobs for other farmers. Sometimes he was paid in money, but more often his pay took the form of oats, corn, apples or other produce. His diary, when he was but twelve years old, proved young Hiram to be an astute business man who kept a careful inventory of his assets. One learns that he owned: Benjamin bushels of apples, 5.00;4 bushels of oats, 1.00; 1 fiddle, very preserved as a private soldier cious; and 29 books including

HISTORICAL WYOMING

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HIRAM B. EVEREST ---— CONT.

year his diary discloses that he was collecting minerals common to Oatka Valley. Many years later, memories of these boyhood inadvortently bogin the great salt boom of the 1880's and '90's.

'Men fifteen years old, he was clerking in a Wyoming store after school hours and continued his habit of recording the market price of produce. In 1845, for example, wheat was priced at \$1.00; corn at 50%. and oats at 31%. This interest in agricultural prices remained with him through his long career.

One of the milestones of his youth came when he was eighteen yoars old. A neighbor hired him to help drive 200 head of cattle and 500 sheep from Wyoming to within 30 miles of Poughkeepsie. The task consumed 31 days, was often attended by lack of adequate food or shelter and other hardships, and paid him but \$11.75. However, his hope of seeing New York City was now about to be realized; pocketing his small wages, he walked the thirty miles to Poughkeepsie and there took a Hudson River boat south to the Metropolis. He began a memorable day walkinguo and down the streets, sizing up the buildings and shops. He spont a portion of the day at "Museum", which was very probably Barnum's American Museum

school books." The following in his purse that he deemed it best to invest some of his remaining cash in a ticket for the inight boat to Albany. Arriving at the Capital, he embarked over geological observations led him the Erie Canal to Rochester, a to drill for oil on the farm and trip which consumed five days. Then he caught rides to Wyoming. He confided to his diary that it was "a never to be forgotten trip".

> Those who knew Hiram Everest relate that the purchase of the spyglass was but an indicator of has interest in things scientific. Throughout his youth he sought to invent and improve devices used on the farm, such as turning. lathes, apple paring machines, barometers, and churns. an avid reader, often reading far. into the night by means of candle light, and the devices which he created from his reading were quite often composed of innovations poculiarly his own.

When young Hiram had obtained fall the courses which the village school had to offer, he went to Middlebury Academy where he completed a course of instruction which prepared him for a senior year in college. He was graduated at nineteen, and decided to make a start in the world with his savings which then amounted to 250. He yearned to join the gold rush to California that year, but his mother dissuaded him, and he compromised the westward urge by moving to Wisconsin, where he taught school in the on Broadway at Ann Street. It village of Portage during the was a renowned institution in winter of 1849-50. His school those days. In his diary, he house was a log cabin and he records two purchases, - a spy- personally made the benches and glass and a pair of boots. These desks. He had forty pupils and expenditures created such a dent for his four month's work he

HIRAM B. EVEREST - CONT.

the parents of his pupils, this wage was nearly all profit.

Along with his school teaching, Everest began to speculate in the wild land near Portage, and the following year, 1850, secured from the government 320 acres at \$3.00 per at Brag Frairie, just a short distance away. During the next winter, with an ox team which cost \$40., a bob sled of his own construction, and a hire! hand, he enclosed with a fence of tamarack poles, a field of fifty acres. In the spring he broke up the field and planted three-quarters of it to sod corn, chopping the hard sod by hand with an axe. The remainder he planted to wheat which yielded a 200-bushel crop.

During the winter of 1851, he cut logs, hauled them to a saw -mill, and thus obtained lumber to construct his first house. In October, that same year, he returned to Wyoming where he washed with his own hands five becks of apple seeds from the waste pomace of a cider mill at Warsaw. He also bought 7,000 root grafts of apple and upon his return to Wisconsin, planted three and onehalf acres as an apple orchard.

On Jan. 1, 1852, he was married to a second cousin, Mercy Everest, and the young couple returned to Brag Prairie to take up the hardships of pioneer farming. Both were of a practical nature; their one wedding gift was \$15.00 with which to buy silver spoons, but they applied it on the purchase price of a cow. His diary reveals that his wedding outfit cost \$47.30. Hiram continued to know the meaning of hard work, but made the most of every opportunity He hired out his oxen at 38% a day, and he himself drove them on plowing jobs for neighbors at

received \$64.00. Since he received 750 a day. He hauled his hogs by board and lodging in the home of lox team to market, and loaded Inursery stock on a wagon, trees at a time, and sold them from house to house. Many days he was eighteen hours on the road. In time, by careful planning, he purchased a team of horses for \$65.00.

> The frequent and killing frosts of that part of Wisconsin wreaked havoc on his young trees, and he reluctantly decided to move to a milder section of the West where he could profitably establish a nursery. In 1856, he sold part of his farm in preparation for leaving, and subsequently disposed of the remaining 120 acros for \$21,00. He then purchased an attractive nursery and fruit farm of eleven acres at Newburg, Ohio, with every hope that his old enemy, the frost, would notthere plague him. That was not the case, for frost damage brought disaster after disaster to his crops, and in 1863, Mr. Everest purchased 70 acres of heavy timber eight miles from Cleveland (now within the city limits), and built a saw mill. There he was able to make a reasonable profit in spite of the fact that the mill burned to the ground twice and was twice rebuilt. There he enjoyed working with machinery again. Meanwhile, Pennsylvania, in 1859, first oil well had been put down, and an industry begun in which he was destined to play a leading role.

Everest determined to return to New York State; in 1865, disposed of his Ohio property and that spring set up a grocery business in Rochester as the senior partner of the firm of Everest and Carson, on Avenue, then a newly settled neighborhood. By this time the lAvenue, use of kerosene was widespread, but Mr. Everest's interest was probably that of the average man.

HIRAM B. EVEREST -

He had witnessed a brief boom in Ohio but did not invest in the scheme. At about that time, a Rochester carpenter, Matthew P: Ewing, had devised a scheme for extracting kerosene by evaporation under vacuum, the idea being to drive off the aqueous parts and leave the solid. He would, however, recover the volatile or vapor part.

Mr. Ewing had been unable to interest any one in his plan until Everest agreed to finance experiments, the first of which said to have been conducted Ewing's back yard with a kitchen stove, a washboiler, and a small quantity of crude oil, all of which cost Mr. Everest 20. The expected yield of kerosene was not realized since there was a residual product that could not be distilled off. Looking about for some use for this remainder, Everest is thought to have visioned Several possibilities, including its use for leather.

Ewing's first patent came in 1866, for a still equipped to operate under a vacuum. Hiram a leather interested manufacturing concern in residuum, which firm found it had superior advantages to the animal and fish oils which they were then using; they agreed to take all the two men could manufacture. The story of the final development of the vacuum process is too complex for our consideration, but it is of local interest to note that it was Mr. Everest who gave Ewing's laboratory device the idea of using steam to the process which paved the way for the elimination of naphtha from the kerosene, and it was Everest who furnished all the early capital for construction of the first stills.

The Vacuum Oil Company was formed with a capital stock of

CONT.

\$10,000, divided into forty shares. Financial difficulties were many; Mr. Ewing became discouraged and sold out to Everest who managed to keep going with the help of his brother-in-law, John D. Helmer, other members of his family, together with friends. When the first still, built along lines which had been untried except in experiment, was a success, Mr. Everest celebrated by buying his wife a gift. It was a kerosene lamp:

In 1867, the capital was increased to \$25,000. By 1903, it reached \$2.500,000. The company produced kerosene, a product for leather manufacturers, and a popular Vacuum Harness Oil. It was Everest who conquered the problem of petroleum lubrication, finding a use in steam cylinders, for the residue of vacuum distillation. It was necessary, in instances, for him and his staff to go out and show users how to adapt their methods and practices to the new lubricant; this service grew into Vacuum's engineering organization.

By 1867 the refinery . had grown to the point where it had three stills. Oil was brought by rail and Mr. Everest was well aware of the advantages of a supply of crude oil nearer home. He remembered some shale outcroppings on farm lands formerly owned by his father, shale that had suggested the presence of oil. Accordingly, in 1878, he leased 10,000 acres of land in the Oatka Valley and drilled a test well, selecting for a test spot his father's old farm at Wyoming. The venture was unsuccessful so far as petroleum was concerned. Instead of finding oil, he found salt. The salt was a stratum 70 feet thick at a depth of 1,300 feet. Out of this discovery arose the vast salt industry of western New York during the last two decades of

(cont. on page 102)

HIRAM B. EVEREST --- CONT.

the 19th century. The first salt manufactured in Wyoming (County, sixty-five pounds, was prepared under Everest's direction. It is not of record that either Mr. Everest, or the Vacuum Oil Company, profited materially from this discovery. In 1928, the old leases for the Oatka Valley "oil land" came to light in connection with title search of some of the property. At the request of the owners, the Company cancelled the leases.

Mr. Everest's firm prospered. His son, Charles M., was an active associate. In 1879, Rockefeller's Standard Oil Company purchased a controlling interest in the Vacuum business. In time, due to the poor health of both Mr. and Mrs. Everest, the founder severed active participation, retaining the office of president for which he received a salary. His son became the active head of the firm, and guided it to an organization with a world-wide reputation. Mr. Everest moved Riverside, California, in 1881, where he purchased 100 acres of land upon which he personally superintended the planting of navel orange trees. Later, this grove yielded 100 carloads of fruit annually, being the largest budded orange grove in the state at that time. A son, Arthur J., was associated with him. Here, too, his old enemy, the frost, renewed its Wisconsin and Ohio acquaintance, but he devised canvas coverings and introduced smudge, also with great success.

Upon the death of Mrs. Everest in 1895, he left California and spent six years in constant tra- NOTE: Grateful appreciation is vel with his daughter, later Mrs. hereby extended to the Socony-James C. Clements of Rochester. Vacuum Oil Co., Inc. for permisheight, five feet eight inches, source materials.

and he was rather stout, especially as he grew older. His eyes were blue and his hair changed from brown to gray. "He walked with short steps and his keen eyes seemed to miss nothing. He was slow to speak as a rule, but when he did speak the remarks were usually very much to the point. He had a keen sense humor and enjoyed the good fellowship of friends. He was scrupulously neat in his dress. was characteristic of him that he wore the same style of necktie for fifty years and it was always a tie made by his wife or daughter. "He was a close Bible student and very strict about the observance of the Sabbath; he insisted that all work in the Rochester plant be shut down from Saturday night until Monday morning, Even after his retirement, he made and patented several inventions -- an egg cup, a knife guide, a sprinkler, a wrench, etc., but never attempted to market any of them.

In the numerous maxims which Hiram Bond Everest coined may be found the philosophy which guided his thinking and actions. He once said, "All honest work is honorable and deserves your profound respect." On the farm, in the forest, and in industry, he well knew the rigors of hard labor; nevertheless, he wrote: "Nothing worthwhile is accomplished except through great effort and often through many errors, so never give up if success does not come at once but push on to the goal and forget the knocks." His advice can well be our inspiration today.

Between Rochester and California, sion to quote from The Story of he spent his days from 1901, Hiram B. Everest, and to Mr. Paul until his death, March 5, 1913. F. Schnabel, Industrial Relations Mr. Everest was described by a Advisor of the firm's Euffalo friend as somewhat under average office, for the loan of valuable

ATTICA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

July 1942, the Attica In Historical Society displayed to the public for the first time its historical collections in the former east wing of the late Judge Alden S. Stevens home. Built in 1822, the house stood on its Main Street site until after Judge Stevens's death in 1384, when this portion of the structure, which had been his office, was moved to its present site just south of the original loca-In accordance with the request of a member of the family the main part of the house was Today, then demolished. Museum stands well back from the street, partly hidden by trees. and surrounded by a plot of land which can be developed into a fitting setting for the structure.

The building's low facade is dominated by pillars which reach from the porch floor to the roof. It is painted white. The windows, furnished with many tiny panes of glass, reach from floor to ceiling. Around about are the remains of the original garden of the old mansion. Altogether, it is a bit of early Attica, inconspiciously nestled in a secluded spot. The

use of the premises is graciously granted to the Society by Miss Marian Stevens, who, each summer, opens its doors to visitors.

The interior is composed of one large room, and a small room at the south side. While at the doorway one notes the high ceiling, from the center of which is suspended an antique chandelier with all its appurtances of a bygone era. The walls still hold the original wall paper made in France in 1824, while the hangings at the two large windows are drapes from the old Stevens house which are thought to be falmost certainly a part of the original furnishings.

As the Society's collection is in the formative stage no elaborate classification or arrangement has been attempted, but about the rooms there are specimens of nearly every phase of household and community activity of former generations. A very long work desk, left there when the room ceased to be an office, stretches half the length of the east wall, and serves as addisplay counter for many articles.

ATTICA HISTORICAL

SOCIETY MUSEUM

To begin with, take the children's late Lt.-Gov. George W. Hoskins collection: here are dolls, doll furniture, a tiny piano, games, slates, a child's dress, and school books more than a century old. Sometime ago this collection was loaned for exhibit in Attida High School. In the "railroad or travel corner", is a carnetbag, satchel, and early telegraph, timetables, and a schedule of the Warsaw in 1843.

winder; a flax wheel and "swift"; some object gives rise to reminia standard yard stick used for 45 years with a weaver's loom; a washing machine, and numerous kitchen articles. There is a the projects which thee Society lady's dress, hoop-skirt period fine collection of ladies's shoes lits meetings and through commitand slippers, one brocaded slip- tees the labor of gathering hishats are reflected in a display exhibits have been arranged in going all the way from a topper downtown stores; cultural prosaid to date from the Revolut- grams have been brought to Attica; of the 1920's, even including a been contained within the Society hat worn by one of Attica's Of special note are the archives

tables have been assembled. An I but what it is an outstanding almost bewildering array of mis- collection of rural western New cellaneous articles fills every York. For some years, until nook and corner; included is a interrupted by the late War in 50-year old wedding cake; a torch 1943, the organization concrated used in a torchlight procession; in writing a weekly feature ena piece of hand-blocked chintz titled "Attica Historical Scrap made in 1300; old newspapers; an Book", which appeared as a very election exhibit with campaign popular feature of the Attica banners and buttons; Bibles and News. Those who clipped the almanacs; maps, account books; column have a legacy of lasting local nistory volumes; scrap interest, many chapters of the books; an inkstand used by the story that has made Attica the

of Tennington and Attica; a toy bank; a portion of the first cherry log cut in Attica; pictures of pioneers and leading citizens; a bust of the Hon. James O. Putnam; sports equipment; local industries collection: chinavare; a seabag of Civil War days; World War I materials and Red Cross records; and even a beartrap, so coaches that wan from Attica to lessential to frontier life a century and more ago. And let us not forget, too, the Currier & Domestic economy is repre- Ives prints, a trunk, saddlebag sented by a woor carder and and sleigh bells. At every look scences of vesterdays.

The Museum is but a part of has carried forth since its orof 1860; an 1844 taffeta gown; a ganization, Sept. 29, 1937. At per dating from 1753; fans, laces, torical information has produced and bead work. Changes in men's a wealth of valuable data; special ionary period to the brown derby and a junior historical group has Presbyterian clergyman many years which have been compiled and ago.

preserved largely through the leadership of Miss Alice F. Antique chairs and marble-top Potter, and there is no question community which she is today.

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Seven years following the War of Secession, May 30, 1872, Wyoming County Soldiers' Monument Association, an unincorporated body, was launched with the following officers: Hon. William Pryor Letchworth, President; Hon. Augustus Frank, Vice-President; Col. Abram B. Lawrence, Secretary; and Lloyd A. Hayward, Treasurer. An act of Congress, March 3, 1873, conveyed to the Association four captured Confederate brass cannon and sixteen iron balls to be placed at the site of a proposed memorial.

Two months later the York State Legislature permitted the Wyoming County Mutual Insurance Company to transfer the proceeds of certain shares of stock in the Warsaw Water Works Company to the Association as a contribution toward the memorial. Meanwhile, a movement was under way to finance the project through a general appeal for funds from the citizens of the County. response was slow, due in part to the hard times of that day, and decisive action was deferred for nearly four years when sentiment was built up in favor of the erection of a shaft of granite.

The Association had been impressed by a granite monument which stood between the Main Building and to the left of the Machinery Hall at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876. Erected by the New England Granite Works, Hartford, Conn., it was a flawless speciman of their best work, considered of beautiful design, fine proportion, and per-

a Corinthian column rose impressive height. As subsequently erected at Warsaw, the shaft is surmounted by a heroic size bronze statue of a Union soldier. its Philadelphia setting, statues, said to number five, representative of "Hope", flanked the base. Mr. Letchworth and Mr. Frank opened negotiations with the owners finding that, while the original cost had been \$15,000, the firm would be willing to place it in the county and set it up complete for \$7,000, without the base adornments. Its sale was accordingly consummated and the Association, with the cooperation of local newspapers and public-spirited citizens, inaugurated a drive for In September, 1877, a committee to select a site chose Warsaw and determined upon a spot at the intersection of Main and Court Streets.

Work was begun upon a . fortress-shaped base with salient angles upon which were to be mounted the four cannon. brass weapons were cast at Macon. Georgia, at a time of crisis, from metal which had been once a part of church bells sacrificed to the Confederacy. During the last weeks of 1877, the Association, with the assistance of the Supervisor from each town, compiled a list of all soldiers' names to be placed on a scroll and sealed into the base of the Monument.

January, 1878, the During raising of the Monument was accomplished under the direction of a Mr. Williams, representing the fection in taste. From the base quarry firm. Col. A. B. Lawrence,

SOLDIERS' MONUMENT ----- CONT.

on the 19th, deposited in the cornerstone a casket of Civil War memorabilia together with the names of 1575 veterans, while five days later the bronze statue was lifted into place, the figure facing the east, supposedly symbolic of a soldier's readiness to face the responsibilities and dangers of a new day. The camnon were not placed until some time after and for several years the base remained unfinished.

Efforts to raise the cost of the Monument brought slow and in-adequate responses. Local papers repeatedly urged the various towns to shoulder their share. been planned to dedicate the shaft on Memorial Day, 1878, but two years later the Wyoming County Times told its readers that the dedication would not take place until all work was completed and the project free from debt. · value of two of the guns was paid into the fund by Mr. Letchworth in order to defray the cost of the bronze figure. To President Letchworth and other members of the Association, Wyoming County owes the presence of such a memorial within its bounds.

Twenty-five years were pass before the Monument was formally dedicated, all obstacles meanwhile having been resolved. On July 1, 1903, as one of the crowning features of the Warsaw Centennial Celebration, surviving members of the Grand Army of the Republic consecrated the shaft to the memory of those who had served, Earlier, the Legislature, in Chapter 134 of the Laws of 1903, had authorized the transfer of the Monument from the Association to the County of Wyoming, to be under the care of a board of perpetual trustees, consisting of the County Judge, County Clerk, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and

Mayor of the Village of Warsaw and their "successors in office. The County Board of Supervisors on Dec. 9, 1903, accepted the responsibility to perpetually maintain the shaft, and the transfer and conveyance to the County of the memorial was that day presented by Col. A. B. Lawrence, the retiring secretary.

The program of Dedication Day included a dinner for more than 500 guests in the old opera house and a veterans parade headed by GAR State Commander Gen. John S. Koster and staff, together with Posts in bodies and representative of other Posts over a wide area. At two o'clock reville was sounded on an artillery bugle which saw four years service during the conflict. Col.Lawrence presided in the absence of Mr. Letchworth, then recovering from an illness, and read the formal dedicatory message from the absent president. Others who spoke at the services were: Hon. William Bristol, only surviving member of the senatorial district war committee, charged with the responsibility of raising recurits and money; Gen. E. S. Otis, U. S. Army, who gave the principal dedicatory address; Commander Zera L. Tanner, U. S. Navy, a native of Wyoming County; General Koster; Hon. James W. Wadsworth; Hon. F. C. Stevens; and Hon. Henry J. McNair.

In the eighty-four years that have lapsed since the War Between the States the wounds of division have slowly healed, and the Last Reville has sounded for all of Wyoming County's Boys in Blue. The spirit behind a shaft of ageless granite, standing in the shadow of the seat of County government, would summon us to reverent rememberance of those "who gave their last full measure of devotion."



West Star Lodge, No. 205, F. & A. M., of the Town of Sheldon, the first Masonic lodge instituted in western Now York. was granted a warrant from Grand Lodge, March 1812, but was declared for-

feited in June, 1833.

Extant records in the office of the Grand Secretary in New York, copies of which have been made available to us by Mr.Lucius B. Davis, Varysburg, begin with a petition to Grand Lodge under date of March 10,1800, wherein certain brethren request permission to constitute a lodge in Sheldon. It is not definitely known as to the place of meeting but the evidence points to Sheldon Center. petitioners, describing themselves as inhabitants of the town, then the County of Genesee, and members of the Craft, wrote to the Grand Master and other Grand officers that they were at that time more than thirty miles from any Masonic lodge, and had nominated William Vary to be their John Ralph, first master, their senior warden, and Philo first Welton to be their first junior warden. The request was signed by James Cox, Thomas Wolcut, William Feegel, Chauncy Sheldon, William Vary, John Ralph. Philo Welton, Orange Brace, Jotham Godfrey, David jewels, and the charter.

Wright, and John Hublend. men were all pioneers of the township; Mr. Vary, for whom Varysburg is named, had built the first sawmill in that settlement in 1806 and the first grist mill two years later.

The request was duly approved by Genesee Lodge, May 12, 1809, and on the 21th of July, DeWitt Clinton, 'the then Grand Master, endorsed the petition ordering the Grand Secretary to make out the necessary dispensation, the same to be valid for one year. Upon satisfying the requirements for a charter, or warrant, the Grand Lodge granted one in 1812; apparently there was some delay in its arrivel since under date of Feb. 8, 1814, Fitch Chipman, Master; Ebenezer Jackson, Sr. W.; and James Meacham, Jr. W.; were reported as the officers and Grand Lodge was requested to forward the warrant. In 1814, 15 members reported; in 1815, 50; in were 1816, 12, in 1818, 61; and in 1823, 41 members.

Meanwhile, in late 1818, the Lodge sustained the loss by fire of their lodge room, all tools,

FIRST MASONIC LODGE ----- CONT.

Clinton ordered a new warrant sent without charge on Jan. 13, Somewhat over three years later the Lodge applied for remission of its Grand Lodge dues in a communication signed by Fitch Benjamin Potter and Chipman. Ebenezer Jackson. This petition, dated May 2, 1822, pointed out that the brethren were widely scattered and that migrations had reduced membership; in addition, since it was the oldest chartered lodge west of the Genesee River, it once held jurisdiction over a vast area of extremely fluctuating population, and that many had lagt the region without paying their obligations to the Lodge. It was also recorded that West Star in its prosperous years "had procured a good and convenient room, suitable furniture, Jewel & at an expense of more than \$450." The fire of December, 1818, had left the Sheldon brethren without funds, but they hoped to stage a comeback if freed of debts. Grand

The Lodge apparently continued to meet more or less regularly until following the abduction of William Morgan, when in the wake of the anti-Masonic agitation its fate was finally sealed. After 1826, communications were practically suspended and collection of dues ceased and the remaining members were unable to meet their obligations to Grand Lodge. A committee reported in 1830 that the existence of two Grand Lodges and the "present excitement", being so close to the scene of agitation, combined to embarrass their plight, but that with few exceptions monthly meetings had been held and they desired to retain their charter and eventually assume their financial obligations.

Lodge in June, 1822, cancelled all

these debts.

Failing to recuperate its fortunes, West Star lost its charter in June, 1833, and officially ceased to exist. Thomas, writing to the Grand Secretary from Sheldon, lamented their fate but acknowledged that the Lodge had not met its obligations. He revealed that for six years they had been assailed at every hand by opponents, and had met but annually for three years so as to avoid offending the feelings of the neighborhood. Even the Grand Visitor had never been to see them during the disturbance. With this letter, dated August 3, 1833, official records cease. Twenty-four years later, the present Lodge at Varysburg, West Star, No. 113, F. & A. N., was constituted, the lineal descendant of the poincer Masonic body of western New York.

Of interest to Masonic historians is the former William Vary House, supposedly the second dwelling erected in Varysburg, which today stands on Route 20A in the east end of the village. It carries a most unique design in the gable facing the street; what is possibly a "west star", or a sun, with far reaching rays, is designed in wood-carving as an object resting on the cornice. Within the gable end and below the cornice is a conventional design which incorporates a small rectangle within a second, similar to the design at the heading of this article. It is conceivable that West Star Lodge may have met in the dwelling after its rechartering in 1857, or earlier. Or the original owner, being a prominent Mason, may have chosen the design to express his interest in the Craft. We would appreciate hearing from readers who may have information on the early Lodge or the historic home.

PIONEER THRESHER

We are glad to pass on to our readers the following letter from Mr. Samuel Gayton, warsaw, which describes"the first portable threshing machine", the manufacture of which a Perry firm had a part:

"I am writing something which I thought might be of interest to you at sometime if you do not have it."

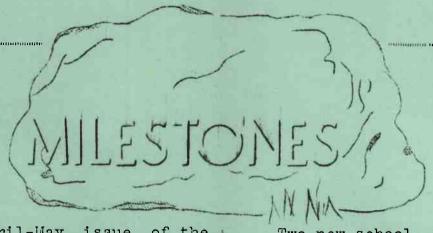
"The first threshing machines in the State, and probably the first in the United States, were some stationary machines built in England at an early date, and were only owned by people who had large estates. They were operated by water-power or by a tread-power."

"At Pavilion Center, which is now in the Town of Pavilion and a part of Genesee County, but which was a part of the old Town of Covington, and called South LeRoy, the first portable threshing machine, one which could be moved from farm to farm, was brilt about ten rods west of the underground crossing on Route 20, and just west of the cloverleaf where 20 crosses 19. was located a short distance east of the four corners at Thyilion Center; on the southwest corner stands the old"International Hotel" last used as a hotel in 1917-it was built in 1830, a prominent stop on the old stage route from andaigua to Buffalo. The road had toll gates every ten miles: many promiment people stopped there in the early days among whom were DeWitt Clinton and Daniel Webster."

"The inventor of the threshing

machine was Ashley Townsend. Ic'do hot have the date, but estimate it to be about 1860. The power plant was a "sweep", something like the full circle haypress common in the Nineties; the sweep was built timbers which could be mounted on wheels, and was arranged usually to be operated by two teams of horses which traveled in a circle. The sweep turned a large gear which turned another pinion and shaft that operated a bevel gear attached to a long shaft with a universal joint which by a bevel gear and pinion on the other end engaged the cylinder of the threshing machine. The operator, or driver, stood in the center of the sweep and drove the horses."

"Mr. Townsend sold the rright. to the original patent to mr. Smith of Fowlerville who manufactured them there and paid a royalty. founder of Wycoff & Tuttle at Perry also dast goars and parts for the convenience of threshers. Later, Mr. Townsend moved his factory to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mr. Martin Ferris, son of James Ferris, a prominent citizen of Middlebuty, told of an incident which happened at Wyoming. A young man, Souels by name, was driving the horses on the sweep when be lost his balance and fell into the gears, crushing his legs. He died a short time later from blood poisoning, and the old people of the community shook thier heads and said this new thresher was an invention of the Devil to kill off our young men. But the new thresher had come to stay and was improved greatly in the next half-century."



The April-May issue "New York State Conservationist" included an article by Cocil E. Heacox, Senior Aquatic Biologist of the State Conservation Dept. entitled "More Facts More Fish" a study of WESTCOY and EAST NOY streams pointing the way to better management of trout and to better use of trout from hatcheries. The survey showed that 85% - 90% anglers' catches were from hatchery fish. These streams, located principally in Wyoming County, are among the best known trout streams in western New York.

The 5th Annual Music Festival of the Wyoming County School Music Assn. was held in Castile, May 27 - 28.

A twenty-five year lease has been taken by the Federal Government on the former Charles R. Gruman 375 acre farm in the town of WETHERSFIELD for use as a rifle range for the National Guard. The site is now owned by Ed. Don George.

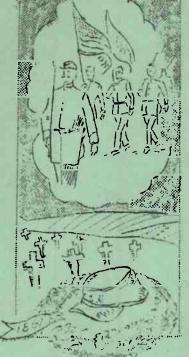
The NEW YORK STATE FREEDOM TRAIN payed a two-day visit to PERRY on June 4-5th, being stationed on the siding at the B. & O. station on Center Street. School children of the County viewed the train either at Batavia, Franklinvible, or Perry.

Rev. M. A. Garland of Ontario, Canada, has been appointed the new rector of TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH, WARSAV, and HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH, PERRY.

Two new school centralizations have been projected for FERRY and WARSAW. Meanwhile, architects have been engaged to submit plans for the proposed Letchworth Central School building to be located between Gainesville and Castile.

The 125th Anniversary Tea of the PERRY CENTER CHURCH WOMEN was held at the church on May 11th, and was featured by a program which traced the activities of Society since its founding, the 13, 1824. Those who were May participants in the program included 6th and 7th generation descendants of the founders, some of whom appeared in old-time costumes, and an historical exhibit displayed numerous articles used by the pioneers of the town. Music was contributed by the Junior Choir; an informal historical sketch was riven by Mrs. Manly Taylor; while the speaker of the day was Mrs. W. L. Carver, Churchville, a leader in women's church work.

"Popular Astronomy", March, 1949, contained a scientific treatise by HOMER W. CLOUGH "An Apparent Castile, entitled Earth-Effect upon Sunspot Activity". Mr. Clough, a native of Arcade and long-time resident there, is retired from Government duty after service as meteorologist with the Weather Bureau. He is the author of numerous studies in his field.



Civil War Roll of Deaths

Below are listed the names of residents of Wyoming County, who were killed in action or died while in Service, as recorded in 1877, and published in the Wyoming County Times. We are reprinting this roll with the request that readers will advise us of additional names and the townships to which those listed should be credited. According to the State Census of 1865, the County suffered 291 casualties while this list contains but 201. At some future time we hope we may be able to publish a corrected roll together with the geographical distribution. Won't you please help?

Armstrong, George*
Allen, James*
Adams, Bush
Austin, Charles H.
Allen, Isaac M.
Atwood, Silas
Atwood, Benjamin F.
Allen, Seman E.
Armstrong, Silas
Atwater, Henry#

Blowers, Galusha* Bishop, Charles C. Bishop, Eli C. Breslin, James Benchley, William R. Breidenbruck, George Barnes, Edwin C. Bills, Lt. Jared H. Bills, Charles . Barnum, Abijah Briggs, Ezra Byam, Henry L. Barnard, Lesley Bump, James Bennett, Milton Barnes, Annis Bentley, Albion J. Bancroft, Ormus

Blake, Willard

Cross, Hiram*
Crittenden, Lot
Clough, Abel*
Carpenter, Edwin M.
Coggin, Joseph
Clapp, Adelbert
Carlton, Judson
Campbell, Lyman A.
Cornwell, John S.*

Darling, Charles B. Day, Charles Donlon, Thomas Damon, Augustus Davis, George W. Dow, John Dunlap, James Doran, James

Evans, Carlos Evans, Charles Emery, Homer H. Eastman, George W. Elwell, Charles

Fillmore, Julius R. Fisher, Rev. James*

Flint, William
Farrell, James
Ferris, Henry
Fox, Walter M.
Fox, Adam
Franklin, William
Forbes, Charles
Fuller, John
Falkner, Edward
Fuller, George A.

Griffith, Moses
Green, Willard*
Graves, Sidney
Gay, Henry M.
Guile, Harvey J.
Gliss, Joseph
Gath, Charles
Griffith, Wallace
Gardner, Orange C.
Griffith, Norris J.

Hare, John
Halsted, Cullen C.
Helmer, Clarkson
Hicks, Job S.
Hood, Stephen A.
Hodges, Alonzo
Hopper, Albert W.

Hitchcock, Richard Hanigan, James Henrietta, Frank Harty, Robert

Inglesby, Homer

Jones, Humphrey M. Johnson, Jason II. Johnson, Charles Jones, Howell Jackson, John

Keghan, John Knox, Frederick W. Keeney, Ennis A.* Kreigelstein, S. Kellogg, Edward D. Keeney, George W.

Lawrence, William B. Leddick, Lawson, B. .Loach, Charles II. Lounsbury, Ira Leddick, Daniel Laramore, George

Mead, Lyman Merrill, Capt. Asa B.* Martin, Hector C.
Martin, George F.
McGuire, Michael
Miller, William
Marsh, Alfred H. Miller, Charles Miller, Francis McEride, William

Negus, George

Owen, Nathaniel O'Conor, Nicholas

Parkins, John

Patridge, Villiam E. Peasley, Timothy Pratt, Irving Patridge, Charles A.* Smith, Thomas Peck, Elias S. Pond, Harvey Palmer, Lyman Patterson, Henry Phinney, Charles P. Phillips, Zenus Pratt, David Perkiks, Olin Rood, James E. Rolph, Nelson Robinson, Seymour L. Redding, Michael Wood, Charles M. Robinson, Major J.P.* Washburn, Oliver Ripley, Solon Renyck, John T. Relyea, Edwin Redding, William Roche, William Russel, William H. Rice, Henry* Rood, Legrand

Simmons, P. E. Smith, Tunis Spencer, Judson A. Simmons, James B. Spencer, Henry Seymour, Jared Sundraker, Jacob Skinner, Welson W. Standish, Alfred* McCormick, James Smith, Williams Horrison, Lt. Jeremiah R. Snyder, Wilber Sammis, Albertus Spink, Benjamin Steamer, John Spencer, George H. Sikes, Seymour Spencer, Anson H. Streeter, Alonzo

Simons, Alfred Strong, Lorenzo Spencer, Menry J. Safford, Penbroke J.

Terry, Monroe A. Thompson, Thomas Thomas, Earl F. Tallman, Lt. Bonjamin Tallman, Frank

Van Valkenburg, R.W. Vosburgh, Henry

Wickson, Edward Waller, D. P. Weaver, Corydon C. Whitney, Carlton W.# Whitney, Lorenzo D.# Wilday, Sylvester Wolf, Charles Welles, Newton# Shockensy, Timothy E.# Watrous, Alfred Solcum, Edwin M. Wiggins, Zelotas C. Wright, Oliver Whittam, Charles E. Wright, Alfred Windsor, Judson Weber, Phillip Wells, William H. Whitney, Whitfield Whitney, Isaac Whitney, Abram Whitney, Charles White, William Welton, Charles

Zehler, Nicholas

*Warsaw #Arcade

The State Census of 1865 distributed the 291 deaths in the County as follows: Attica 31; Arcade 12; Bennington 27; Castile 17; Covington 9; Eagle 17; Gainesville 17; Genesee Falls 7; Java 11; Middlebury 19; Orangeville 3; Perry 34; Pike 32, Sheldon 23; Warsaw 26; Wethersfield 6.

NECROLOGY

DR. HAROLD E. FOSTER, former Castile resident, died at Fort Meade South Dakota, April 19th. He was in charge of the Veterans' Administration hospital there. A resident of Castile prior to World War I, he was one of the first to go overseas where he served with the British army in Flanders; after discharge, he lived briefly in Rochester before entering government service. Burial at Arlington.

A widely known Attica mortician; ERVIN J. MARLEY, died in Batavia, May 7th. Burial was at Attica, He had served on the Attica Village Board, as an assessor, and Town Clerk for ten years. He was born in Attica in 1383.

In Warsaw, May 10th, occurred the death of DAVID A. DILTZ, D.D.S., aged 73, a native of Canada. He was a graduate of the Dental School, University of Buffalo, and came to Warsaw in 1904. Burial at Warsaw.

DR. ELMERG. HORTON, 81, child specialist and professor emeritus of pediatrics, Ohio State University, died May 30, at Columbus, Ohio. He was a graduate of Arcade High School's first senior class in 1887, and while at Cornell was a football star.

MRS. MARY J. STEIT, 94, a lifelong resident of Perry, died May 22. She was the great-great grandaughter of Lt. Richard Bishop the soldier of the Revolution who came farthest west in New York State at the time of Sullivan's expedition into the Genessee Country. The house in which she was born at 18 Short Street, was one of the earliest on the Ogden Tract.

In Appreciation

With this issue HISTORICAL YOMING concludes Volume II. occasion for the County Historian to express his abiding appreciation for the support and cooperation which has made its publication possible. The cost was defrayed through funds set aside by the Board of Supervisors toward expenses of this Office. Again, through the courtssy of the Arcade Central School Board Principal Joseph A. Kemo. facilities of the commercial department of the School have been set aside for our use.

We owe a great debt to Mr. Robert W. McGowan of the Commercial Department who, during the past two years, has graciously volunteered his services in the mechanical preparation of the bulletin. The appearance of the bulletin at all is due to his Through the School year, efforts. Through the School year 1948-49, he has been assisted by the following Senior students: Peggy Almeter, Lillian Butler, Naomi Glasner, Mildred Gleave, Joan Maher, Connie Nichols, Olive Roblee, Ethelmae Shisler, Alice Tuczapsky, Jennie Turk, Maryann Stotsky.

Our thanks go out to each and all.

A great debt of appreciation is reserved for those readers and friends who have sent in contributions, or have aided us in our research, and have inspired us to go forward. Le hope that we shall again serve you with Volume III.

CORRECTION

In the May issue, page 35, the name of the college founded by Jospeh Ward should have read YANKTON COLLEGE

TERU

The following inscriptions were recorded during the summer of 1948 in the burial ground in the Hamlet of West Middlebury, located in the northwest portion of the Town of Middlebury, Burials date fron the second decade of the 19th century, consequently some of the older stones are no longer legible and others have become broken. The Cemetery is in excellent condition and fenced.

ALLEN

Elizabeth, 1859 - 1934

ATWATER

Rev. Lucius, June 22, 1812 - Dec. 0, 1892 Hannah S., sedond wife, d. Mar. 30, 1873, 54 yrs. Eli, son Rev. Lucius, d. July 10, 1872, 237 10m 22d.

AUSTIN

Jane Wilson, wife Herman Austin, 1810 - 1842

AVERY

Spencer, d. Feb. 8, 1895, 75 yrs. Pauline R., wife, d. Apr. 15, 1901, 78 yrs. Francis M., son, d. May 6, 1872, 21 yrs.

BAILEY

Adaniram, son Aaron & Mary Bailey, d. Aug. 2, 1838, 19 yrs. 1 mon. 22 ds.

"My flesh shall slumber in the ground Till the last trumpets joyful sound

Then burst the chains with sweet surprise

And in my Saviour's image rise."

Merritt R., May 22, 1829 - July 27, 1912

Rosella Wilson, wife, Mar. 16, 1829 - Feb. 16, 1910

Charles A. Judd. Sept. 19, 1852 - May 26, 1883

Sons of Merritt & Rosella:

Perrin M., Jan 18, 1856 - July 18, 1858 Merritt J., Nov. 12, 1863 - Oct. 7, 1874 Deacon Aaron (Father), d. May 27, 1876, 71y 5m Maria, wife, (Mother) d. Jan 7, 1880, 73 yrs.

BAIRD

Sally, wife Levi, d. Mov. 8, 1827 in 25th year "While slumbering in the dead of night Her soul it took a sudden flight To worlds above where Christ is gone No more to sigh, no more to mourn." Daniel, d. July 7, 1831, 60 yrs. Betsey, wife Daniel, d. Feb. 24, 1852, 78 yrs.

Susan, wife B. F. Baird, d. (stone buried)

BALDWIN

George J., 1871 - 1937 Kate M. Smith, wife,

BARROS

Franklin T., son Calvin & Olive, d. Feb. 8, 1819, 2y 3m 25ds. "Sleep on dear babe and rest Thou did thy parents charm Now in your Savior blest Who called thee to His arms."

Calvin, d. Mar 8, 1873, 89 yrs 6 mora, BARROWS

Olivo, his wife, d. Sept. 7, 1005, 76 yrs. 3 mons.

Sexturs W., 1319 - 1902 Rachael H., wife, 1822 - 1899

George N., 1847 - 1913 Olive M., 1853 - 1922 Clarence B., 1872 - 1907

BELKNAP

Jane E., dau. Augustin & Nancy, d. Mar. 23, 1861 43y Mosley D., Our Brother, d. May 9, 1856, 35y Nancy Dewey Belknap, Pioneer, 1785 - 1871 Lorane B., 1830 - 1904

Alfred F., 1825 - 1919 Brainard E., son A. F. & Lorane, d. Sept. 18, 1861

14 yrs 18 ds.

E. B. Belknap, M.D., 1866 - 1913

Alice H., wife,

Beulah, infant daughter, no date

BEY

Robert P., 1889 -Lizzie, 1894 - 1919

BLATSFORD

Richard, 1825 - 1892 Sarah, his wife, 1831 - 1920 Archie, their son, 1871 - 1897 Charles H., 1869 - 1926

BOOTH

Marion, 1895 - 1937 Ella L., 1861 - 1929 Samuel, 1857 - 1940 William A., Father, 1859 - 1947 Mary E., wife, Mother, 1867 - 1919

BOWER

Henry, 1860 - 1944 Kate, his wife, 1860 - 1933 Lillian, daughter, 1836 - 1902

BOWERS

Rachael, wife Sam'l Bowers, d. July 22, 1831, 69y 2m 24d Cynthia, wife John S. Bowers, d. (stone weathered)

BRAINARD

Edward, Father, d. Dec. 18, 1830, 70 yrs. Deborah, wife, Mother, d. Nov. 25, 1873, 64 yrs. Edmund, d. Oct. 31, 1884, 74 yrs. 10 mons. Alzina, his wife, d. Mar. 5, 1882, 72 yrs. 6 mons. Lewellyn G., dau. E. & A., d. Feb. 9, 1857, 17 yrs. Seymour E., 1850 - 1928

BRAUN

Phillipina W., 1856 - 1929 (on Fuest lot)

BRONSON

Elnathan B., 1864 - 1934 Anna M., 1866 - 1939

BROWN

Albert H., May 3, 1890 - July 20, 1899

Walter, Father, 1854 - 1934

Sophia Brewster, his wife, Mother, 1859 - 1915

Albert, 1897 - 1899

BUCK

Deborah, wife Isaac Buck, d. Apr. 10, 1860, 60 yrs. (Burial on Terry Family lot)

BURST

Jacob, d. Sept. 29, 1896, 69 y 10 m l d. Esther, his wife; 1828 - 1916
I. J., 1866 - 1945

Emma, his wife, 1865 - 1934

CAPWELL

Peter, d. Mar. 10, 1874, 86y 6m 8d Olive, his wife, d. June 30, 1876, 85y um 15d

Children of Peter & Olive:

William B., d. June 30, 1816, ly 8m 7d Abigail M., d. Feb, 18, 1835, lly 6m 28d Rose & Tilly, infant twins, d. June 7th@June 11,1872

George H., d. May 1, 1875, 20y 5m 14d Roy P., 1861 - 1928

Franklin W., d. Oct. 9, 1889, 66y

-llen C., wife Franklin, d. May 2, 1914, 83y

William, a Revolutionary Soldier, Experienced religion

in 88th Year. Died May 13, 1343, 97 yrs. William R., d. Sept. 9, 1833, 49y 9m 8d

CARLSON

Carl E., 1872 - 1939

CHA (DDOCK?)

Mary, daughter Willard & Amelia Ch----, d. Oct. , 1831 13y 14d

CHADDOOK

Willard, d. May 27, 1832, 48y 3m 27d Floyd, son Ashley C. & Holen C. Thompson, 1871-1925 Alvin; 4. Jan. 22, 1371, 83y 6m 15d Alvin; d. Jan. 22, 1871, 83ý 6m 15d
Sally, wife Alvin, d. May 3, 1868, 76y 8m 2d
Philander, May 5, 1815 - April 22; 1991
Helvina R., wife Philander, Oct. 21, 1822-Har. 20, 1898
Children of Philander & Helvina:

Harriet, d. Hov. 12, 1848, ly lym 27d
Ellen, d. June 12, 1850, 2y lm 12d
Joseph, 1824 - 1905
Clarrissa H., his wife, 1832 - 1362
Hary E.: his wife. 1828 -

Mary E.; hiş wife, 1828 -

Carl F., 1862 - 1905 Minnie, his wife, 1864 - 1941

CHAMBERLAIN

Melvin H., 1850 - 1891 William K:, 1884 - 1891 Mercey W., 1355 - 1920

CHOATE

Lucinda A., 1821 - 1869 Frank M.; 1857 - 1858 Edith B., 1867 - 1943 Charles B., 1861 - 1943

UEST MIDDLEBURY CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS Austin E., son Henry & Elizabeth, d. Jan. 23, 1864, 3mo

CONKLIN

Elias L., 1783 - 1862 Clarisca Shepard, his wife, 1785 - 1857

CORNELL

Judson El, son Peleg H.& Rebecca.d.Mar.1,1817 18mo Mercy, wife P. Hi, d. Febi 17, 1842,22yrs. Also an infant aged 16 days
Peleg Hi, Sept. 10, 1817 - Aug. 4, 1889
Rebecca Mi, second wife Peleg; orn Mar.26,1815, d-Mary Anni daus Benjamin & Annid.Feb.28,1838, aged 18y im 2d
Benjamin, d. Nov. 5, 1868, 73y 7m
Arthur M., son M. J.& Amelia, d.Mar.10,1884 2y 6m

COX

David, d. April 10, 1874, 60 yrs.
Aurelia; his wife, d. Fob. 24; 1880, 62 yrs
Anah II., dau. Vm. A. & Imma A., d. Aug. 31, 1872, 6mons

CRITTENDEN

Adaline F., wife William A., d. May 9,1856, 33 yrs.

CUMMINS

Amos F., son Ichabod & Bebee, d. Feb. 20, 1824, 10y 10d

DEHMER

Mary E., 1882 - 1915 (Burial on Fuest lot)

. Leander, Oct. 9, 1815 - May 4, 1893

DORAN

Jemima, relict James Doran, d. May 10, 1829, 74: yrs

EASTMAN

Harriet, wife Leander, July 23,1830-May 21, 1900
Mary, wife Leander, d. Dec.17,1864, aged 46y 4m
John N., son Leander & Mary,d.Nov.\$,1864, 17y 4m
Charles Justin, son Leander & Mary,d.Nov.9,1864
12y 11m
Nathaniel H., d. July 30, 1867, 75y
Calvin B., 1818 - 1902
Matilda J., wife Calvin, 1826 - 1901
Julia M., dau.Calvin & Matilda,d.June 13,1867,20y
Marilla, wife N. H. Eastman, d. Aug. 11, 1878,
aged 3ly 9m 4d
Justin Leander, Dec. 24, 1869 - Nov. 23, 1946
Lillian Ewell, wife,
Adda Viola, dau. Justin & Lillian, Mar. 2, 1897

EIGHLY

Edgar L., d. Aug. 15, 1890, 56y 5m 3d M. Urana, his wife, 1845 - 1914 Milly J., dau., d. April 19, 1894, 26y 11m 4d

EVANS

Paul M., 1899 - 1937 (American Legion marker)

EWELL

Hiram, 1826 - 1893
Fannie M., wife Hiram, 1829 - 1910
James, 1786 - 1855
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Miranda, dau. James & Hannah, 1818 - 1898
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